

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 05858 032120Z

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ACTION SCS-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6595

INFO AMCONSUL BELEM

UNCLAS BRASILIA 5858

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (DAVIS, JOHN W)

SUBJECT: WELFARE OF JOHN W. DAVIS FAMILY

REF: BRASILIA 4028

1. FOLLOWING REPORT CONCERNS CASE OF JOHN DAVIS FAMILY (IN WHICH CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST HAS BEEN EXPRESSED BY SENATOR JOHN TOWER OF TEXAS, SENATOR HENRY BELLMON OF OKLAHOMA, CONGRESSMAN OLIN E. TEAGUE, TEXAS, AND CONGRESSMAN JACK EDWARDS OF TEXAS).

2. AMERICAN CONSUL BELEM TELEPHONED EMBASSY BRASILIA TO RELAY FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS REPORTED TO HIM. ON JULY 3, 1976, AT APPROXIMATELY 1100 HOURS THREE MEMBERS OF THE DAVIS FAMILY, JOHN DAVIS AND HIS TWO SONS BRUCE AND MALLORY, WERE ATTACKED BY A GROUP OF THIRTY ARMED MEN WHILE TRAVELING BY CAR ACROSS THEIR PROPERTY IN MUNICIPALITY OF PARAGOMINAS, STATE OF PARA. THE THREE DAVIS FAMILY MEMBERS WERE WOUNDED AND REMAINED IN VICINITY OF THEIR CAR DUE TO CONTINUED PRESENCE OF THE THIRTY ARMED MEN. BRAZILIAN EMPLOYEE ACCOMPANYING DAVIS FAMILY MANAGED TO MAKE HIS WAY TO DAVIS FAMILY HOUSE WHERE REPORT OF INCIDENT WAS RADIOED TO DAVIS COMPANY HEADQUARTERS IN BELEM. REPORT WAS THEN PASSED ON TO AMERICAN CONSUL BELEM. AT 1210 HOURS AMERICAN CONSUL BELEM MADE CONTACT WITH STATE POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND RELATED INCIDENT TO THEM. STATE POLICE PROMISED TO DISPATCH UNITS TO INVESTIAGE.

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PAGE 02 BRASIL 05858 032120Z

3. LATER REPORTS REACHING EMBASSY BRASILIA FROM AMERICAN CONSUL BELEM BY WAY OF DAVIS COMPANY HEADQUARTERS' RADIO IN BELEM INDICATE (UNCONFIRMED) THAT BOTH DAVIS SONS MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED AND THAT THEIR FATHER JOHN DAVIS IS WOUNDED, CONDITION UNKNOWN. RADIO CALLS DURING THIS PERIOD HAD BEEN MONITORED BY STATE GOVERNOR OF PARA WHO SENT MILITARY POLICE DOWN BY PLANE TO NEARBY AIRFIELD AT VILA RONDON. DAVIS COMPANY AS WELL HAS DISPATCHED PLANE TO VILA RONDON TO PICK UP SENIOR MR. DAVIS AND TAKE HIM TO BELEM. PLANE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN AREA 1615 HOURS LOCAL TIME. AT THIS TIME EMBASSY BRASILIA IS NOT AWARE WHETHER REMAINING DAVIS FAMILY MEMBERS WILL BE EVACUATED BY THIS AIRCRAFT. AMERICAN CONSUL JACOBINI IN BELEM WILL MEET PLANE AT BELEM AIRPORT, ASCERTAIN CONDITION OF MR. DAVIS AND REPORT. IF OTHER DAVIS FAMILY MEMBERS REMAIN ON FARM, JACOBINI WILL FLY DOWN TOMORROW MORNING EARLY (IMPOSSIBLE LAND IN VICINITY AT NIGHT AND AFOREMENTIONED EMERGENCY FLIGHTS HAVE EXHAUSTED AVAILABLE AIR TAXIS).

4. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH IN BRASILIA WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY, JUSTICE MINISTRY AND THE FEDERAL POLICE, REQUESTING THEY TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES URGENTLY. SINCE STATE AUTHORITIES HAVE JURISDICTION IN THESE MATTERS AND APPEAR TO BE ACTING VIGOROUSLY, FEDERAL AUTHORITIES WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY LEAVE THINGS IN THEIR HANDS. DETAILS ARE STILL FILTERING IN; FOREGOING IS CURRENT AS OF 1630 BRASILIA TIME. WILL REPORT IMMEDIATELY AS FURTHER INFO BECOMES AVAILABLE.
CRIMMINS

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